

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PPT-01 SCA-01 SCS-03 SY-04 A-01 RSC-01

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R 111452Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 137

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, CVIS, CPAS, CASC, GE, WB, XG, AFSP

SUBJECT: BUILDUP OF CONSULAR SERVICES OFFERED BY EMBASSY BERLIN

1. WITH OFFICIALS OPENING OF EMBASSY ON DECEMBER 9, WE WILL BE BUILDING UP AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE THE RANGE OF CONSULAR SERVICES EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE UNTIL WE ASSUME ALL SUCH DUTIES. ADDRESSEES ARE ADVISED IN THIS MESSAGE OF THE SCHEDULE WE NOW FORESEE.

2. EMBASSY IS NOW REVIEWING ALL NIV APPLICATIONS AND UNDERTAKING INITIAL PROCESSING. HOWEVER, BECAUSE MARINE SECURITY GUARD ARE NOT YET STANDING ROUND-THE-CLOCK WATCHES AT CHANCERY AND BECAUSE NOT ALL CLASSIFIED OR CONTROLLED EQUIPMENT OR PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE, EMBASSY MUST CONTINUE TO RELY ON GOOD WILL AND ASSISTANCE OF CONSULAR SECTION OF MISSION BERLIN ACTUALLY TO ISSUE. VISAS. EMBASSY HAS HAD NO INDICATION FROM GDR OFFICIALS

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THAT THEY WOULD FIND THIS PRACTICE OFFENSIVE. WE WOULD HOPE TO

TAKE OVER FULL NOV FUNCTION WITHIN 10-14 DAYS, SPECIALLY AFTER WE RECEIVE APPA AND HAVE FULL MARINE COVERAGE. EMBASSY WILL, OF COURSE, REPORT FIRST NIV ISSUED ON TEMPORARY MACHINE AND ON REGULAR MACHINE/PLATE WHEN IT ARRIVES. DOES DEPARTMENT HAVE INFORMATION ON THIS LAST ETA?

3. INV OPERATIONS ARE MORE COMPLEX AND ALSO REQUIRE FULL MARINE COVERAGE. WE DO NOT YET HAVE DRY OR WET SEALS, BURROUGHS PROTECTOGRAPH LEGEND MACHINE PLATE OR FORMS FS-511 IN CHANCERY. (THEY ARE BEING HELD ARE BEING HELD IN BERLIN MISSION.) WE HAVE NOT YET LOCATED PROTECTOGRAPH MACHINE ITSELF NOR CONSULAR CASH RECEIPT MACHINE. (DOES DEPARTMENT KNOW WHERE THESE ITEMS NOW ARE;) EMBASSY HAS NOT YET BEEN OFFERED SUITABLE (INCLUDING S-4 R-4 ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CAPABILITY) LOCAL PERSONNEL FOR CONSULAR STAFFING BY GDR DIPLOMATIC SERVICES BUEAR (DLA), WHICH PROVIDES ALL OUR GERMAN STAFF. AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, WE WOULD NOT REASONABLY EXPECT TO BEGIN IV OPERATIONS BEFORE THE EARLY PART OF 1975. (WE DO NOT EXPECT THAT WE WILL HAVE REQUESTS FOR INV SERVICES THAT CANNOT BE PASSED TO OTHER POSTS, FOR WHOSE INDULGENCE WE SHALL BE APPRECIATIVE, BEFORE THAT TIME).

4. WHEN EMBASSY HAS ALL RELEVANT EQUIPMENT FOR PASSPORT ISSUANCE (SEE 8 FAM 248.2), IT WILL REQUEST BLANK PASSPORTS AND BEGIN ISSUANCE OPERATION. THE KEY ITEM IN THIS REGARD IS THE PASSPORT TYPEWRITER AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE WORD ON WHEN IT MIGHT BE EXPECTED IN BERLIN. UNTIL THAT TIME, WE WOULD HAVE TO DEVELOP A PROCEDURE IN WHICH AMCITS NEEDING PASSPORTS COULD BE ASSISED TO ANOTHER POST FOR PASSPORT, PEHAPS BY SOME VARIATION OF "PROMESA" SYSTEM USED BY EMBASSY WARSAW. ALTERNATIVELY, EMBASSY WOULD ACCEPT APPLICATIONS AND PASS THEM TO MISSION BERLIN FOR ISSUANCE WITH EMBASSY OBTAINING GDR EXIT VISAS AS AND IF NEEDED.

5. EMBASSY WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE NOTARIAL SERVICES WHEN SEALS ARE STORED IN CHANCERY, I.E, WHEN MARINES PROVIDE ROUND-THE-CLOCK COVERAGE. PROTECTION, WELFARE, HUMANITARIAN CASES, AND MOST OTHER SERVICES CAN BE PROVIDED NOW.

6. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER ADVISING OTHER POSTS OF BERLIN'S PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE CONSULAR CAPABILITIES.
DECONTROL MARCH 31, 1975. COOPER
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